



Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) in the Bureau for Children, Youth and Families has received an incentive award of \$18,000 from [Champions for Progress](#). The purpose of this federal funding from HRSA/Maternal and Child Health Bureau is to help states improve their health delivery systems.

In partnership with Kansas stakeholders, CSHCN will develop and implement strategies that address medical home access and transition issues for special needs children. CSHCN will convene a two-day meeting of stakeholders including parents to consider a shift in emphasis to infrastructure building activities that address the six national MCH outcomes. The outcomes are as follows:

- Families of children with special health care needs will partner in decision-making at all levels and will be satisfied with the services they receive;
- All CSHCN will receive coordinated ongoing comprehensive care within a medical home;
- All families of CSHCN will have adequate private and/or public insurance to pay for the services they need;
- All children will be screened early and continuously for special health care needs;
- Community-based service systems will be organized so families can use them easily;
- All youth with special health care needs will receive the services necessary to make transitions to all aspects of adult life, including adult health care, work and independence.

Medical home access and transition services for children with special health care needs are focal issues for both parents and providers. According to the National Survey of State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey (SLAITS) only 58 percent of special needs children in Kansas receive care within a medical home. Slightly more than seventy percent (70.9 percent) of the polled families reported they could access community-based service systems easily but not all communities have the same resources.

The SLAITS survey also found Kansas families did not have the services necessary to make a smooth transition to all aspects of adult life.

Stakeholders will be asked to be creative in problem solving about more effective methods of using current resources, partnering with others, collaborating to support other programs already in place, developing a common language relating to policy and funding allocations.

At the close of the conference, everyone will be asked to put an oar in the water. We are all in the same boat. If we all pull together we can make a positive impact on the current health care delivery system. One small change starts the ripple effect.